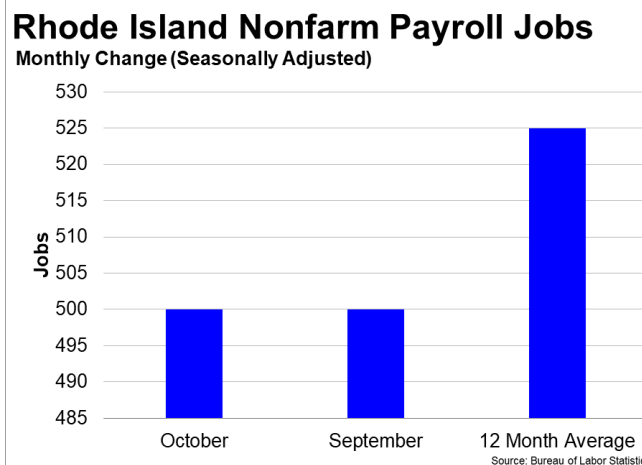
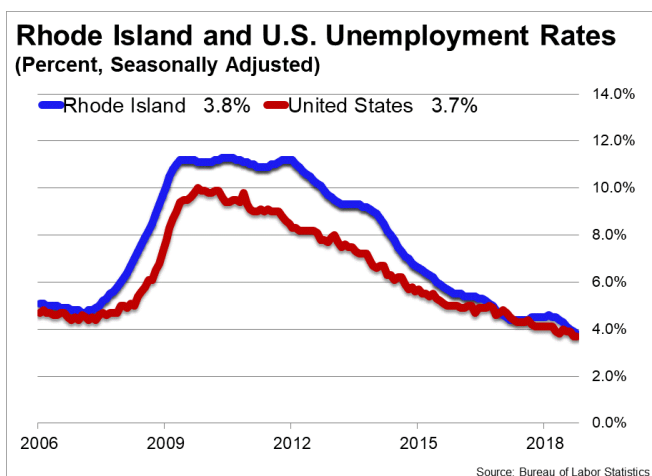




November 16, 2018

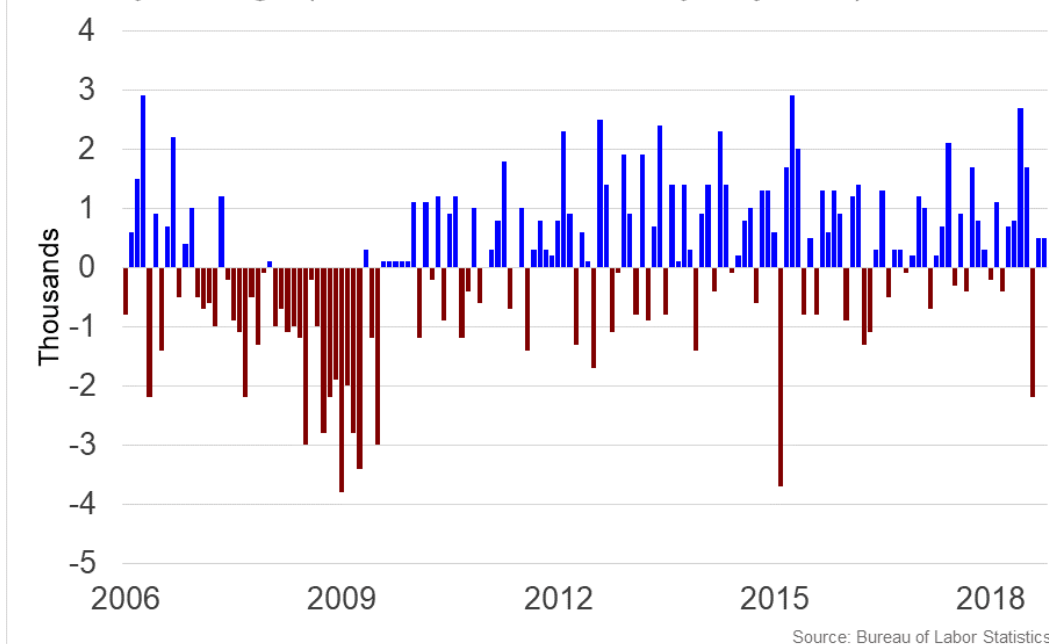
## Summary

- **Rhode Island added 500 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.8 percent in October** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Rhode Island added 6,300 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.7 percentage point from 4.5 percent.
- **In October, Rhode Island's private sector added 400 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 6,600 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Rhode Islanders fell by 747 in October**, and over the past year 8,576 Rhode Islanders found jobs.
- Rhode Island's **labor force participation rate decreased to 64.8 percent** from 64.9 percent in October. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.4 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.7 percent in October**. State employment and unemployment data for November is scheduled for release on December 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for November will be released on Friday, December 7, 2018.



## Rhode Island Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



### Rhode Island Payroll Employment

Rhode Island added 500 jobs, or 0.10 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during October. In the prior month, Rhode Island added 500 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Rhode Island increased by 6,300, or 1.27 percent. Rhode Island nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

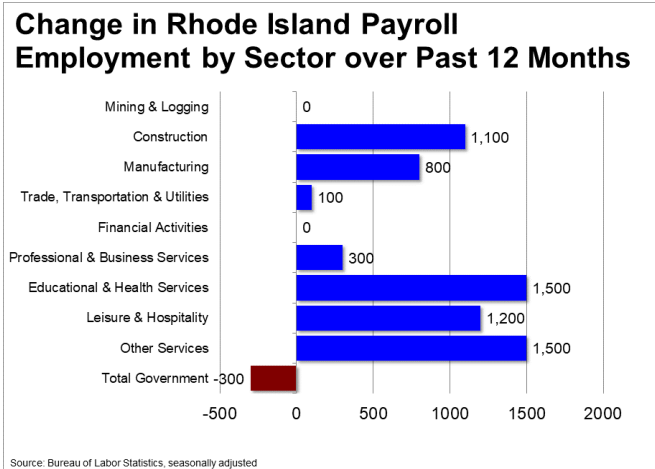
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000 jobs in October, or 0.17 percent. Over the 12-month period ending October 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,516,000 jobs, or 1.71 percent. Rhode Island ranks 15th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During October, Rhode Island's private-sector added 400 jobs, or 0.09 percent. The private-sector in Rhode Island added 500 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Rhode Island increased by 6,600, or 1.51 percent. Rhode Island private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 246,000 jobs in October, or 0.19 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,450,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.96 percent. Rhode Island ranks 16th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during October were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+500) and Other Services (+500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Professional & Business Services (-600) and Manufacturing (-300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+1,500) and Other Services (+1,500). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Total Government (-300), Mining & Logging (unchanged), and Financial Activities (unchanged).



## **Rhode Island Labor Force Statistics**

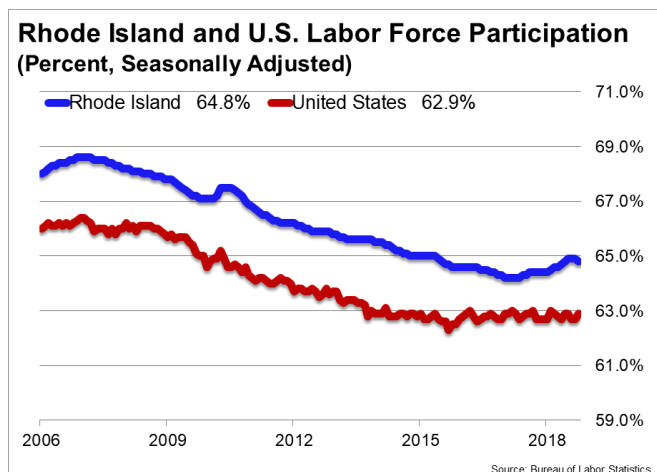
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Rhode Island declined to 64.8 percent in October from 64.9 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 18 have a higher labor force participation rate than Rhode Island. The labor force participation rate in Rhode Island is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Rhode Island was 67.9 percent in November 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Rhode Island occurred in March 2007 when the labor force participation rate hit 68.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 64.2 percent in May 2017. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in October 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 62.8 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.2 percentage point to 62.9 percent in October, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Rhode Island civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at



62.3 percent in October. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 17 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Rhode Island. The employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island is 0.7 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island was 62.3 percent in October 2018. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island occurred in March 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 58.8 percent in January 2012. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.2 percentage point to 60.6 percent in October. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

